

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:182
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2007
DELAY IN PURCHASING ORDER OF BSNL
Acharia Shri Basudeb

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited Board reviewed the 45.5 million GSM line tender as reported in the Financial Express dated July 17, 2007;
- (b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;
- (c) whether Joint Forum of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited Unions/Associations have also drawn the attention of the Government to the delay in releasing the purchasing order;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a)to(e) Sir, since the Government is yet to announce spectrum policy for 3G services, Board of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) had taken a review of the GSM tender with the possibility to restrict order to 2G component. BSNL employees had also raised their concern against possible restriction of order on 3G component and requested for immediate release of purchase order. However, based on the legal opinion, BSNL Board has decided to maintain the provision of the tender including 3G component.